

BELL

Appl. No. 10/827,417

September 22, 2006



**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-14 (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) A method of recycling waste carpeting and forming a new carpet containing the recycled waste carpeting comprising:

- (a) collecting waste carpeting containing calcium carbonate and thermoplastic materials;
- (b) processing the waste carpeting to provide a first material from the waste carpeting containing a first filler including the calcium carbonate and the thermoplastic materials and reducing the first material to a predetermined size in a range of 50-100 to 95-325 wherein the first number represents the percentage of the first material which will pass through a mesh screen having a mesh size corresponding to the second number, and heating the first material to a temperature enabling the first material to flow;
- (c) adding the first material to a second material to provide a composite material useful in the manufacture of the new carpet; and
- (d) making the new carpet containing the composite material.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim ~~15~~ 16 wherein the step of reducing includes grinding the first material .

18. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 15 wherein the filler comprises calcium carbonate.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 15 including adding the first material to the second material to comprise a carpet backcoating and where step (c) is practiced by making a carpet backcoating.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 19 including processing the composite material of step (c) into molten form having a viscosity in a range of 10,000-30,000 CPS.

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 20 wherein step (c) is practiced to produce a carpet backcoating with about 3-30% EVA copolymer, about 15-65% resin and 30-70% of a second filler wherein the second filler comprises calcium carbonate and a predetermined percentage of the composite material.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 15 wherein steps (c) and (d) are practiced to produce thermoplastic or thermoset products.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 15 wherein steps (c) and (d) are practiced to produce PVC products.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of recycling waste carpeting comprising:

(a) collecting waste carpeting;

(b) processing the waste carpeting to provide a first material from the waste carpeting containing a filler and thermoplastic materials; [[.]]

(c) heating the first material to a temperature enabling the first material to flow; and

(d) flowing the first material onto a second material to bond the first material and second material to one another to form a useful product; [[.]]

and wherein step (d) includes flowing the first material onto the second material wherein the second material is formed of fiberglass and making new carpeting with the first and second materials and fiberglass.

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Cancelled).

27. (Cancelled).

28. (Currently Amended) A method of recycling waste carpeting and forming a useful intermediate product, comprising the steps of:

- (a) collecting waste carpeting containing calcium carbonate and at least one of a thermoplastic resin, nylon and caprolactam; and
- (b) reducing the waste carpeting to a predetermined particle size in a range of 50-100 to 95-325 wherein the first number represents the percentage of the waste carpeting which pass through a mesh screen having a mesh size corresponding to the second number; [[.]]

and wherein the method includes processing the reduced waste carpeting to provide a final useful product, the step of processing including combining the waste carpeting in a molten resin to form the useful product.

29. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 28 wherein step (b) includes grinding the waste carpeting.

30. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 28 wherein step (b) including grinding the waste carpeting to produce particles having a particle size in a range of about 78-200.

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 28 wherein the waste carpeting of step (a) contains calcium carbonate 50-70%, a thermoplastic resin mixture 0-45%, nylon 0-45% and caprolactam 0-8%, said percentages being by weight.

32. (Cancelled).